

Approved For Release 2000/05/24 : CIA-RDP75-00001

1 Feb, 1969

1)

We are here today to do honor to our friend, Allen Welsh Dulles. Only yesterday he was amongst us, - all energy, enterprise and sage ideas, the wit and good talk welling around him from the springs of his own spirit.

The first shock has passed, an interval has been afforded us to reflect on his life in its full reach. We can rightly think that the manner of his going suited the splendid whole of his life. There was no wasting decline nor no helpless lingering on. His time had come and God was merciful. Allen Dulles went quickly to the world beyond, that unknown world for which, I am sure, he became as prepared in spirit and as ready in faith as he became, through the years of testing, as he was for the one he shared with us.

No one who knew him could say his course was run. Just the other morning, his desk in the sunny workroom on Q Street still was covered with papers and books that had occupied him until he left for the hospital on Christmas Eve. The work of an Allen Dulles is never finished. It is possible, it is altogether conceivable, one could even take joy in believing that where he has gone there also was need for a good Watchman.

2)

For it is as a special kind of Watchman that many of us saw him, a familiar and trusted figure in clear outline on the American ramparts, seeing to it that the nation was not surprised in its sleep. In the middle of his arc of life, the protective cushion of space in time represented by the great oceans on both sides of our continent were compressed and telescoped by new technologies, and ever since Americans and their allies have had to look to the techniques of intelligence for timely warning. Pursuant to the National Security Act of 1947, it fell largely to Allen Dulles to carry forward a new kind of protection; to develop further the Central Intelligence Agency, to inspire its people with conscience and meaning, along with the techniques and intellectual discipline that national security demands in our modern world.

But Allen Dulles, was, of course, more than a Watchman. He was the least passive of humans. He was the most active and most open of men. He stood in full view and was fully accountable in our open society. His own rounds in the pursuit of truth, - the truth that keeps man free - took him again and again into distant places.

3)

Let us understand each other: Allen Dulles' modesty would resist an eulogy. We are here only to be reminded of the values that gave moral and political coherence to his life. He was a life-long Presbyterian, the son of a preacher and a Christian in the noble meaning of the word. He was educated in the classics and in the law; he grew up in a world that included a maternal grandfather who was Secretary of State under President Harrison, an uncle who was Secretary of State under Woodrow Wilson, and an older brother who was Secretary of State under President Eisenhower, and a sister who worked in the Department of State under four Presidents. He was thus bred to a patriotic tradition based on moral law; a civilized man in the Jeffersonian tradition. With all this there was something else. A foreigner put it perceptively, after an evening at the house on Q Street. "I am not altogether a stranger to the English language," the visitor remarked, "but it was not until I met with Allen and Clover Dulles in their house tonight that I have finally understood the meaning of your word 'patrician'. So he, with Clover, was marked with grace, the grace of humbleness and civility.

4)

For a certain time of our lives, the Cold War has scarred us all. Allen Dulles brought forward the facts that we cannot ignore. We cannot pretend that the danger is over and done with. The furious rhetoric of our times, allied with a pervading cynicism, has made many among us lose sight of the issues that really matter.

With Allen Dulles, what really counted all along were the central elements of the liberal tradition - liberty under law, conscience, the sovereignty of principle, the ideal of self-government, the creation and protection of democratic institutions - the human values, in short.

Allen Dulles began his public life as a Wilsonian Liberal. To the end he believed with Wilson that Americans were "destined to set a responsible example to all the world of what free government is and can do." He lived by this belief and he, himself, never bent to compromise.

5)

Allen Dulles' faith, public philosophy, and life itself, were all of a piece. This being so, he could move from the law to diplomacy, and on to intelligence, from private life to public life and back again, in a manner devoid of conflict. Men everywhere knew where Allen Dulles stood. This is what has made his many colleagues a band of brothers. His associates have shared with him a faith that Americans must persevere in pursuit of universal human ideals: the conviction that the striving cannot be safely ended while vast stretches of the world remain under various forms of tyranny. When he made his formal farewell some seven years ago, having dwelt on the challenges ahead, he said to his colleagues, "You can count on me, I shall always be with you."

Perhaps we can now find it in ourselves to say that we shall always be with him: to say that for us, as for him, patriotism sets no bounds on the wider pursuit of truth and the defense of freedom and liberty. His love of the American land went beyond the temporal and the political. He love^d the look of the land, its inner meaning and mystery. At the last, the man who gave so much strength to others needed support for himself. Clover had that strength and she gave it freely. It was a lovely thing to see.

6)

What can you and I give to such precious people?
Perhaps only what Walt Whitman, in his famous song of elegy,
wanted his countrymen to give to another great American:

"For the sweetest, wisest soul of all my days and lands -
And this for his dear sake,
Lilac and star and bird twined with the chant of my soul,
There in the fragrant pines and the cedars dusk and dim."